

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdraw) A highly sensitive real-time RT-PCR capable of specifically detecting the expression of more than one MAGE gene, wherein reverse transcription of the corresponding MAGE transcripts is carried out simultaneously in a single cDNA-synthesis reaction.

2-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A diagnostic composition comprising ~~one or more~~at least one suitable cDNA-~~[[primers]]~~primer for simultaneous reverse transcription of ~~more than one~~at least two different MAGE gene transcripts and ~~optionally an appropriate calibrator mRNA~~ in a single cDNA-synthesis reaction.

20. (Original) The diagnostic composition of claim 19, wherein at least one cDNA-primer is MgRT3a, Mgl_RT5a or PBGD_RT15b.

21. (Original) An oligonucleotide selected from the following group of primers:

MgRT3a
Mgl_RT5a
PBGD_RT15b.

22. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 19, wherein the at least two different MAGE genes are selected from the functional genes of MAGE subfamilies A, B and/or C.

23. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 19, wherein the at least two different MAGE genes comprise MAGE-A 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 10 and/or 12.

24. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 19, wherein the at least one cDNA primer for reverse transcription of MAGE mRNA is selected from the following groups of oligonucleotides:

(A)

primer	sequence (5' - 3')
MgRT3a	ACC TGC CGG TAC TCC AGG
MgRT2	CAG CTC CTC CCA GAT TT
MgRT5a	AGG ACT TTC ACA TAG CTG GTT TCA
MgRT1b	CCA GCA TTT CTG CCT GTT TG
MgRT4	GCC CTT GGA CCC CAC AGG AA
MgRT6	TTT ATT CAG ATT TAA TTT C
MgRT1a	CCA GCA TTT CTG CCT TTG TGA
MgRT3b	ACC TGC CGG TAC TCC AGG TA
MgRT5b	GGA CTT TCA CAT AGC TGG TTT C

(B)

primer	sequence (5' - 3')
Mg1_RT5a	CAC TGG GTT GCC TCT GTC
Mg1_RT1	CAA GAG ACA TGA TGA CTC TC
Mg1_RT2	TTC CTC AGG CTT GCA GTG CA
Mg1_RT3	GAG AGG AGG AGG AGG TGG C
Mg1_RT4	GAT CTG TTG ACC CAG CAG TG
Mg1_RT5c	CTG GGT TGC CTC TGT CGA G
Mg1_RT5d	GGG TTG CCT CTG TCG AGT G
Mg1_RT5e	GGC TGC TGG AAC CCT CAC
Mg1_RT6	GCT TGG CCC CTC CTC TTC AC
Mg1_RT7	GAA CAA GGA CTC CAG GAT AC

25. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 24, wherein the at least one cDNA primer for reverse transcription of MAGE mRNA is MgRT3a.
26. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 25, wherein the at least one cDNA primer for reverse transcription of MAGE mRNA are the primers MgRT3a and Mg1 RT5a.
27. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 19, the composition further comprising a suitable cDNA-primer for reverse transcription of an appropriate calibrator mRNA, wherein reverse transcription of the appropriate calibrator mRNA is simultaneous with

reverse transcription of the at least two different MAGE gene transcripts, and wherein reverse transcription of the appropriate calibrator mRNA and of the at least two different MAGE gene transcripts are in a single cDNA-synthesis reaction, said single cDNA-synthesis reaction being followed by PCR-amplification of the MAGE- and calibrator cDNAs.

28. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 27, wherein the calibrator mRNA is porphobilinogen desaminase (PBGD) mRNA, glyceraldehyd-3-phosphat dehydrogenase (GAPDH) mRNA, beta-2-microglobulin mRNA, or beta-actin mRNA.
29. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 28, wherein the primer for reverse transcription of PBGD mRNA is selected from the following group of oligonucleotides:

primer	sequence (5' - 3')
PBGD_RT15b	TGG GGC CCT CGT GGA ATG
PBGD_RT13a	GTA TGC ACG GCT ACT GGC
PBGD_RT15e	CAG TTA ATG GGC ATC GTT AAG
PBGD_RT15f	ATC TGT GCC CCA CAA ACC AG
PBGD_RT14a	GCT ATC TGA GCC GTC TAG AC
PBGD_RT15a	AAT GTT ACG AGC AGT GAT GC
PBGD_RT15k	TGA GGA GGC AAG GCA GTC
PBGD_RT15l	GGA TTG GTT ACA TTC AAA GGC
PBGD_RT15g	GGC CCG GGA TGT AGG CAC
PBGD_RT15j	CAG TCT CCC GGG GTA ATC
PBGD_RT12c	CAG CAC ACC CAC CAG ATC
PBGD_RT12d	AGA GTC TCG GGA TCG TGC
PBGD_RT12e	AGT CTC GGG ATC GTG CAG
PBGD_RT12h	CCT TTC AGC GAT GCA GCG
PBGD_RT12f	TCT CGG GAT CGT GCA GCA
PBGD_RT15i	CTC CCG GGG TAA TCA CTC
PBGD_RT2	CAT ACA TGC ATT CCT CAG GGT
PBGD_RT3	GAA CTT TCT CTG CAG CTG GGC
PBGD_RT4	TGG CAG GGT TTC TAG GGT CT
PBGD_RT10a	GGT TTC CCC GAA TAC TCC TG
PBGD_RT10d	TTG CTA GGA TGA TGG CAC TG

PBGD_RT12b	CCA AGA TGT CCT GGT CCT TG
PBGD_RT12g	ATG CAG CGA AGC AGA GTC T
PBGD_RT15h	GGT AAT CAC TCC CCA GAT AG

30. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 29, wherein the composition comprises oligonucleotide MgRT3a as a primer for reverse transcription of the at least two different MAGE gene transcripts and PBGD RT15b as primer for reverse transcription of the PBGD mRNA.
31. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 28, the composition further comprising PCR-primers for amplification of the calibrator mRNA, wherein the calibrator mRNA is porphobilinogen desaminase (PBGD) mRNA, and wherein said PCR-primers for amplification of PBGD-cDNA comprise oligonucleotides selected from the following groups:

PBGD sense primer	sequence (5' - 3')
hu_PBGD_se	AGA GTG ATT CGC GTG GGT ACC
PBGD_8	GGC TGC AAC GGC GGA AGA AAA C
PBGD_8_F	TGC AAC GGC GGA AGA AAA C
PBGD_ATG-Eco	ATG TCT GGT AAC GGC AAT GC

PBGD antisense primer	sequence (5' - 3')
PBGD_3	TTG CAG ATG GCT CCG ATG GTG AA
PBGD_3.1_R	GGC TCC GAT GGT GAA GCC
PBGD_R	TTG GGT GAA AGA CAA CAG CAT C

32. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 31, the composition comprising the oligonucleotides hu PBGD se and PBGD 3.1 R or the oligonucleotides hu PBGD se and PBGD R as primer pairs for PCR-amplification of PBGD-cDNA.
33. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 19, the composition further comprising PCR-primers for amplification of MAGE-cDNA, the primers comprising oligonucleotides selected from one of the following groups:

(C)

PCR-primer	sequence (5' - 3')
MAGE-A1	GTA GAG TTC GGC CGA AGG AAC
MAGE-A1	CAG GAG CTG GGC AAT GAA GAC
MAGE-A2	CAT TGA AGG AGA AGA TCT GCC T
MAGE-A2	GAG TAG AAG AGG AAG AAG CGG T
MAGE-A3/6	GAA GCC GGC CCA GGC TCG
MAGE-A3/6	GAT GAC TCT GGT CAG GGC AA
MAGE-A4	CAC CAA GGA GAA GAT CTG CCT
MAGE-A4	TCC TCA GTA GTA GGA GCC TGT
MAGE-A10	CTA CAG ACA CAG TGG GTC GC
MAGE-A10	GCT TGG TAT TAG AGG ATA GCA G
MAGE-A12	TCC GTG AGG AGG CAA GGT TC
MAGE-A12	ATC GGA TTG ACT CCA GAG AGT A

(D)

PCR-primer	sequence (5' - 3')
MAGE-A1	TAG AGT TCG GCC GAA GGA AC
MAGE-A1	CTG GGC AAT GAA GAC CCA CA
MAGE-A2	CAT TGA AGG AGA AGA TCT GCC T
MAGE-A2	CAG GCT TGC AGT GCT GAC TC
MAGE-A3/6	GGC TCG GTG AGG AGG CAA G
MAGE-A3/6	GAT GAC TCT GGT CAG GGC AA
MAGE-A4	CAC CAA GGA GAA GAT CTG CCT
MAGE-A4	CAG GCT TGC AGT GCT GAC TCT
MAGE-A10	ATC TGA CAA GAG TCC AGG TTC
MAGE-A10	CGC TGA CGC TTT GGA GCT C
MAGE-A12	TCC GTG AGG AGG CAA GGT TC
MAGE-A12	GAG CCT GCG CAC CCA CCA A

34. (New) The diagnostic composition of claim 33, the composition comprising PCR-primers of group C for a first round of PCR-amplification and PCR-primers of group D for a second round of PCR-amplification.